[95] LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

TRANSMITTING

A REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE MINT,

OF

ASSAYS MADE OF SEVERAL SPECIES

OF

FOREIGN GOLD AND SILVER COINS,

PURSUANT

TO THE ACT OF APRIL 29, 1816.

FEBRUARY 12, 1818.

Read, and ordered to lie upon the table.

WASHINGTON:

PRINTED BY E. DE KRAFFT.

1818.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

FEBRUARY 11, 1818.

SIR.

In obedience to the act, entitled "An act regulating the currency within the United States, of gold coins of Great Britain, France, Portugal, and Spain, and the crowns of France and five franc pieces," passed the 29th of April, 1816, I have the honor to transmit, herewith, a report of the Director of the Mint, giving the result of sundry assays, made in pursuance of instructions from this Department.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

WM. H. CRAWFORD.

The honorable the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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R. O. Dawona Apidebalo 1892. 1917

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to may however, sir, he observed, that from lang expe

Mint of the United States,

February 7, 1818.

SIR.

I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 20th ultimo, and agreeably to your , have caused assays to be made of the several species of foreign gold and silver coins, made current in the United States, by an act of Congress, passed 29th of April, 1816. The result of the assayer's report is as follows:

				Car.	Grs.
5 pieces of British gold coins, of various dates				22	00
5	Portuguese,	do	very near	ly 22	00
5	French,	do		21	23
5	Spanish,	do		20	31

oz. dut gr.

5 pieces of silver crowns of France, various dates 10 18 12 5 five franc pieces of France - 10 16 12

From the above report, it appears—

1. That the gold coins of Great Britain and Portugal being of the same quality with those of the United States, their intrinsic value will be at the rate of 100 cents for 27 grains, as regulated by law.

2. That the intrinsic value of the gold coins of France, will be at the rate of 100 cents for $27\frac{35}{69}\frac{1}{1}$ grains, viz. one grain in $125\frac{7}{11}$ dollars more than the weight by law, or one

dollar in 3,455 worse, than their legal value.

3. That the intrinsic value of the gold coins of Spain, will be at the rate of 100 cents for $28\frac{6}{11}$ grains, viz. one grain in $24\frac{2}{3}$ dollars more than the weight by law, or one dollar in 703, more than their legal value.

4. That the intrinsic value of the silver French crowns, will be $117\frac{7}{10}$ cents per ounce, or one-tenth of a cent more,

than their legal value.

5. That the intrinsic value of the silver five franc pieces of France, will be at the rate of 116_{10} cents per ounce, or 6_{10} of a cent in the ounce, more than their legal value.

It may, however, sir, be observed, that from long experience, by the assayer of the mint, it is found, that the quality of foreign coins, especially of silver, is somewhat variant, as will appear, by comparing the above report with that of the last year. Their respective values, therefore, as regulated by the law of 1816, are probably as near their average intrinsic value, as can well be ascertained.

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2. That the intrinsic value of the gold coins of figures, will be at the type of 100 cents for 2745; crains, vist one grain in 1854; dillars more than the weight by laws or one

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of France, will be at the race of ridge seems per general of

I have the honor to be, sir,

With very great respect,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed)

R. PATTERSON.

than their legal value.

Brace

The honorable William H. Crawford,
Secretary of the Treasury.

